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LADAS & PARRY 5670 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD, SUITE 2100 LOS ANGELES, CA 90036-5679			LEVITAN, DMITRY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2662	

DATE MAILED: 10/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/827,267

Applicant(s)

FURUKAWA ET AL.

Examiner

Dmitry Levitan

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AM

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 July 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 381-466 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 381-466 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 April 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Amendment, filed 07/20/05, has been entered. Claims 381-466 remain pending.

Claim Objections

1. Claim 396 is objected to because of the following informalities: abbreviation SCN should be explained.
2. Claim 442 is objected to because of the following informalities: abbreviation UNI should be explained.
3. Claim 420 is objected to because of the following informalities: abbreviation CIC should be explained.
4. Claim 417 is objected to because of the following informalities: abbreviation NNI should be explained.
5. Claim objections 1-4 are examples of the problems observed in other claims 381-466. Applicant should provide each abbreviation in the claims with explanation.
6. Where applicant acts as his or her own lexicographer to specifically define a term of a claim contrary to its ordinary meaning, the written description must clearly redefine the claim term and set forth the uncommon definition so as to put one reasonably skilled in the art on notice that the applicant intended to so redefine that claim term. *Process Control Corp. v. HydReclaim Corp.*, 190 F.3d 1350, 1357, 52 USPQ2d 1029, 1033 (Fed. Cir. 1999).
The term “a handset is taken up” in claim 395 is used by the claim to mean “take the phone off the hook”. Applicant should use industry established terms to define the invention.
7. Claim 395 recites the limitation "the domain server 1" in line 11 and the limitation "the domain server 2" in line 13. There is insufficient antecedent basis for these limitations in the claim.

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8. Claim 397 objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. Claim 397 limitation excludes portions of the claim 396 making the claim broader.

9. Claims 448, 451, 454 are objected to because of the following informalities:
typographical error "two or mode". Appropriate correction is required.

10. Claim 436 limitation "said media router connects to one or more terminals" is repeated twice in the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 381-394, 406, 417, 419-428, 430, 431, 435, 442-466 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

3. Claim 381 limitation "said address completion message and transmits said received address completion message is transmitted to said connection server" is unclear as written.

4. Claim 381 recites the limitation "the calling sound" in line 33. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

11. Claim 381 limitation "connect/release" is unclear, because it is not understood if the limitation means connect and release or connect or release. Appropriate correction is required.

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12. Claim 393 and 394 limitations “dependent (in 393) and independent (in 394) type of apparatus” are unclear, because it is not understood what is a dependent/independent apparatus.

13. Claim 398 limitation “dependent type IP telephone” is unclear, because it is not understood what is dependency of this telephone.

14. Claim 394 limitation “voice/image apparatus” is unclear, because it is not understood if the apparatus comprises voice and image (fax or video?) or voice or image. Appropriate correction is required.

15. Claim 395 limitation “an analog signal for notifying a telephone call is transmitted from said analog IP telephone” is unclear, because it is not understood what is “analog IP telephone” transmitting analog notification messages.

16. Claim 396 limitation “IP communication line” is unclear, because IP networks comprise routing mechanism without defined communication lines, in contrast with switched networks where communication lines are well known, also it is unclear what is the line relationship to the IP protocol: is it connecting IP related equipment or carries IP packets.

17. Claims 381, 406 and 432 limitation “transmitting/receiving” is unclear, because it is not understood if the limitation comprises transmitting and receiving or transmitting or receiving. Appropriate correction is required.

18. Claim 401, 409 limitation “a media router wherein: more than two telephone sets are stored” is unclear, because it is not understood how telephones sets (devices) can be stored in a router and limitation of claim 401 “said IP package is allocated with a telephone number of either of the telephone sets and with an address administration table” lacks antecedent basis for “said IP package” in the claim and unclear as written.

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19. Claim 405 limitation “a common port number for a plurality of telephone sets” is unclear, because it is not understood what device comprises ports and what is common port number for the plurality of telephones.

20. Claim 413 limitation “an IP communication record is set in order that a telephone communication is carried among preselected companies” is unclear, because it is not understood what setting of the record means in the context of the claim and what are the criteria for the companies pre-selection.

21. Claim 413 limitation “closed-area telephone communication” is unclear because it is not understood what communications belong to closed-area and what are not.

22. Claim 416 limitation “open-area telephone communication” is unclear, because it is not understood what communications belong to open-area and what are not.

23. Claim 432 limitation “to connect/release” is unclear, because it is not understood what is the action of the limitation.

24. Claim 432 limitation: ”determine a communication line for inter-terminal communication within the IP transfer network” is unclear because in contrast with switched networks, IP networks utilize routing without determining a communication line.

25. Claim 435 limitation “wherein the telephone number server is asked on the basis of a request of a calling telephone set to solve an IP address” is unclear as written.

26. Claims 458, 461 and 464 limitation “a step to decide an internal address” is unclear, because it is not understood what means “to decide an address”.

27. Claim 400 limitation “a telephone connected to a media router provided in a LAN having a telephone number of a public switched telephone network; a combination of an address

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telephone number and a transferee gateway telephone number is set in a transfer processing unit of a switching machine” is unclear as written.

28. Claim 407 limitation “said media router includes a telephone number server which answers an IP address when a telephone number is inquired” is unclear as written.

29. Claims 417, 419-428, 430, 431, 442-447 limitations “NNI interface” or “control of NNI” are unclear, because it is not understood what is NNI interface or control.

30. Claim 429 limitation “a voice IP packet is branched to a voice IP communication line” is unclear because it is not understood what is “branching a packet” and what is voice IP communication line in the context of the claim.

31. Claims 448, 451, 458, 461, 464 limitations “said network node apparatus respectively have two or more logical terminals, said network node apparatus are connected to terminals via said logical terminals, said terminals communicate with said network node apparatus by using an external packet via said IP network” are not understood, because it is unclear which terminals communicate with said network node apparatus.

32. Claim 434 limitation “ a simple encapsulation method” is unclear. Because it is not understood what encapsulation methods are considered simple and what are not.

33. Claim 434 limitation “an internal address is added to a logical terminal” is unclear as written.

34. Claim 434 recites the limitation “the external IP address” in line 7. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

35. Claim 439 limitation “and so on of an IP data multicast network” is unclear as written.

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36. Claim rejections 3-34 are examples of the problems observed in claims 381-466.

Applicant should review the claims for clarity, addressing the problems similar to the indicated above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

37. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

38. Claim 416 is rejected (as best understood) under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Dunn (US 6,324,280).

Dunn teaches a terminal to a terminal communication control method with employment of an IP transfer network (communication between stations 25 and 26 through internet 10 on Fig. 1 and 2:35-45) wherein: in an open area telephone communication, a communication line employed in a voice communication can be separated from an IP communication line (using SS7 communication line shown on Fig. 1 and 3:35-67, separate from the Internet 10 connection, shown on Fig. 1 to establish a phone connection 1:28-59).

39. Claim 406 is rejected (as best understood) under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by White (US 6,069,890).

White teaches terminal-to-terminal communication control method with IP network (IP based telephone system on Fig. 4 and 4:5-25), comprising call set (telephones 100 and 118 on Fig. 4

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and 8:21-44), call reception, process and response carried in the IP network (steps 126-160 VoIP telephone process, shown on Fig. 5) and a service phase comprising release and release completion (inherently part of any telephone call, because at the end of the call the used connection is released) and a record including a telephone number, a communication start and end (billing according the time used 4:19-25 and distance, inherently utilizing an originator telephone number, as all telephone billing is done according the originator telephone number).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

40. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

41. Claims 393-395, 398, 399, 401, 407-410, 435 are rejected (as best understood) under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Voit (US 6,104,711) in view of Champa (US 6,934,278).

Voit substantially teaches the limitations of claims:

A terminal to terminal communication connection control method with an IP network

(communication system shown on Fig. 1 and 6:53-67 and 8:3-45), wherein:

Voice apparatus 1 (telephone 49 on Fig. 1 and 8:3-15) inquires a host name of voice apparatus 2 (computer 21 with voice capabilities 7:40-50) to an IP image dedicated domain name server inside an IP network (utilizing translation tables of domain name server 51 on Fig. 1 and 9:5-40) via a media router 1 (PSTN gateway 45 on Fig. 1 and 8:16-46) and obtains IP address of said

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voice apparatus 2 (voice to computer call process to obtain the computer IP address 16:34-45), then said voice apparatus 1 sends voice data to said voice apparatus 2 via media router 1, the IP network and said media router 2 (internet access server 27 on Fig. 1), to carry out a voice communication between apparatuses 1 and 2 (establishing a call from an ordinary phone to a computer 16:34-45).

Voit does not teach using the system for image/video transmission and H323 termination units. Champa teaches using Internet for video transmission (communication over Internet on Fig. 3 including multimedia interface with video signal interface shown on Fig. 4 and 5 4:36-50) and H323 termination units (multimedia interface 110, comprising IP telephone gateway 116 on Fig. 4, including H323 voice packetizer 156 on Fig. 5 and 5:5-45).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add using the system for image transmission of Champa to the system of Voit to add an important and popular feature to the system.

In addition, regarding claim 395, Champa teaches the IP system with analog telephones utilizing POTS interface, as shown on Fig. 5, establishing 1-to-1 communication utilizing H323 termination units on Fig. 3-5 and Internet on Fig. 3 comprising more than one router.

In addition, regarding claim 398, Voit teaches an IP terminal and a dependable type of IP telephone connected via communication line to first/second gateway (computer 21 and a voice telephone related portion of the computer comprising microphone 23 and speaker 25 on Fig. 1 and 7:41-55 connected to internet access server 27 through a dial-up connection Fig. 1 and 7:55-62) to establish terminal to terminal communication (communication between PC 21 and similar PC 35 on Fig. 1 and 7:52-67).

In addition, regarding claim 401, Voit teaches storing telephone numbers (storing telephone numbers in translation tables 77 of domain name server 51 on Fig. 1 and 2, 9:55-10:40), digitizing voice from an analog telephone (A/D and D/A converters to digitize voice in PCs 21 and 35 on Fig. 1 and 7:41-51), forming and transmitting IP packets via a line interface unit (inherently part of internet access servers 27 and 33 on Fig. 1, because a line interface unit to form and transmit IP packets is essential for the servers interfacing the Internet) to a network node apparatus (one of the internet routers, shown on Fig. 5) and allocating a telephone number according to the address administration table (allocating telephone numbers in translation tables 77 of domain name server 51 on Fig. 1 and 2, 9:55-10:40).

Regarding claim 399, Voit teaches a plurality of gateways provided with interface functions that can be adapted to various sorts of telephone communication procedures (Internet servers comprises modem, ISDN or LAN interfaces for two-way communication over Internet 7:1-17).

Regarding claims 407, 409 and 435, Voit teaches a media router (access server 27 or 33 on Fig. 1) operating with telephone number server (domain name server 51 on Fig. 1 and 8:60-9:25), which is requested at initial stage a telephone number or an IP address (inquiry/setting packet to translate a telephone number or IP address 9:4-20) and transmits the result of the inquiry to the requestor to start a second stage of establishing a telephone connection (server 51 transmits a response message containing the destination address to a calling PC to establish a telephone connection 9:21-26).

Regarding claim 408, Voit teaches IP setting packet comprising a source and destination telephone numbers (query message to contain the address of a requestor and an address of the

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terminal device 9:55-62, wherein the addresses for a standard telephone 49 calling another standard telephone are telephone numbers).

Regarding claim 410, Voit teaches a router comprising an IP packet transmitter/receiver, an IP terminal, or a communication line capable of transmitting/receiving packets to/from a LAN connected to the router (inherently part of server 33, because it communicates with Ethernet LAN, comprising PCs 35 and 41 7:19-30).

42. Claim 396 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Voit in view of Champa in further view of Admitted prior art (Application, control protocol for multimedia system, based on H323 [0020]).

Voit in view of Champa substantially teaches the limitations of claim 396 (see the rejection above) including H323 termination.

Voit in view of Champa does not teach utilizing SCN interface.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add SCN interface of H323 standard of Admitted Prior Art to the system of Voit in view of Champa to improve the system communication with multiple analog telephones.

43. Claim 418 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Voit in view of Champa in further view of Black (ISDN and SS7, Prentice Hall, 1997, pages 32-33).

Voit in view of Champa substantially teaches the limitations of claim 418 (see the rejection above) including ISDN termination, PSTN gateways 45 and subscriber exchanger of public switched network 47 on Fig. 1.

Voit in view of Champa does not teach utilizing UNI interface.

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Black teaches ISDN UNI interface as a standard interface to connect ISDN devices to a transport network (Fig. 3-1 and pp. 32-33)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add UNI interface of Black to the system of Voit in view of Champa to improve the system compatibility with numerous ISDN devices.

44. Claims 402, 403, 413, 415, 434, 436-441, 448-466 are rejected (as best understood) under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over White in view of Reshef (US 6,321,337).

45. Regarding claims 402, 413, 434, 436, 448, 451, 454, 458, 461 and 464 White substantially teaches the limitations of claim 434, comprising a terminal to terminal communication control through an IP network telephone sets 100 and 118 connected to respective routers/gateways 104 and 116 on Fig. 4, encapsulating voice call data into an IP packet with an external address (obtaining an IP address and establish Internet connection 8:35-67) and controlling the telephone communication, including inherent connection release, by keeping the record of telephone connections for the purpose of billing (timed based billing, inherently comprising a connection start time and release time to identify the equipment used time 10:10-20).

White does not teach adding an internal address to the packet at the logical terminal connected to the router by an IP communication line and keeping the external and internal addresses in an address management table inside the logical terminal.

Reshef teaches adding an internal address to the packet at the logical terminal (inherently part of the system, because Reshef teaches wrapping the outgoing messages from external network 16 in security gateway 10 on Fig. 1b into respective native protocols 9:11-65, including

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IP) connected to the router by an IP communication line (lines 22 on Fig. 1b and 7:43-46) and keeping the external and internal addresses inside the logical terminal (inherently part of the system, because keeping the external and internal addresses is essential for the protocol conversion to ensure two way communication 9:10-65).

Official notice is taken that keeping the addresses in a management table is well known in the art.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add an internal address to the packet at the logical terminal connected to the router by an IP communication line and keeping the external and internal addresses inside the logical terminal of Reshef and using a table for the addresses to the system of White to improve the system security by creating a secure internal environment.

In addition, regarding claim 402, 436, 448, 451, 454 Reshef teaches internal network as an IP network 9:10-25, and encapsulating/decapsulating the packets from the internal network as shown as encapsulating and decapsulating steps on Fig. 3b and 12:62-13:25.

In addition, regarding claims 458, 461, 464 White teaches a system of telephone communication over the Internet, the system not limited to two shown routers, therefore comprising numerous terminals/gateway routers, paired with numerous logical terminals of Reshef.

In addition, regarding claim 413, White teaches communicating between the Autonomous Systems of companies as shown on Fig. 1 and 1:50-2:15).

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46. Regarding claims 403 and 415, White teaches a system comprising Internet address data base/server 112 on Fig. 4 for providing IP addresses in response to the dialed phone number (9:10-32) and server 112 as domain name server.

47. Regarding claims 437 and 457, White teaches a system to carry out a telephone communication (Fig. 4).

48. Regarding claim 441, Reshef teaches an external and internal networks as IP networks (utilizing TCP/IP in both networks 9:10-25).

49. Regarding claims 449, 452, 455, 459, 462 and 465 White teaches a system wherein the connection phase is based on common channel signaling (common channel signaling portion of SS7 system, utilizing SSP(service switching point) capabilities in the gateway routers 9:65-10:20) including an address completion message (inherently part of the system, because SS7 protocol, utilized in the system of White, comprises an address completion message).

50. Regarding claims 450, 453, 456, 460, 463, and 466 White teaches a system wherein said call connection phase/call setting includes a response confirmation message (caller is requested to confirm billing charges in response to the VRU request 17:57-18:11).

51. Regarding claim 404, White teaches setting the call by transmitting IP packet comprising a destination telephone number (9:37-41).

White does not teach transmitting the source phone number in the IP packet.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add the source phone number to the IP packet of the system of White in view of Reshef to simplify a response from the called side when the called phone is busy, as the busy signal is delivered to the calling telephone 100 (9:51-58).

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52. Regarding claims 438 and 439, White in view of Reshef teaches all parent claims limitations (see the rejection of claim 436 above).

White in view of Reshef does not teach data multicasting operation.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add data multicasting operation to the system of White in view of Reshef to utilize IP network well known multicasting abilities to send important/urgent message to numerous recipients.

53. Regarding claim 440, White in view of Reshef teaches all parent claims limitations (see the rejection of claim 436 above).

White in view of Reshef does not teach TV broadcasting operation.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add TV broadcasting operation to the system of White in view of Reshef to utilize IP network well known multicasting abilities and well known techniques of transmitting TV over telephone lines to send provide TV broadcasting to numerous recipients.

54. Claim 429 is rejected (as best understood) under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kung (US 6,252,952).

Kung substantially teaches the limitations of the claim:

A termination gateway equipped with capsulation function (IP central station 200 and administration center 155 on Fig. 1 and 2, 5:30-65) wherein:

Said gateway includes a relay control unit (portions of IP central station 200 and administration center 155 on Fig. 1 and 2) and a network apparatus (IP central station 200 and administration center 155 on Fig. 1 and 2 inherent interfaces with IP network 120 as shown on Fig. 1 and 2, because IP interfaces are essential for the system interaction with IP networks);

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Said network node apparatus owns both an IP encapsulation and inverse-capsulation functions (inherently part of central station 200 as shown on Fig. 2, because it converts telephone calls from PSTN 160 into Voice over IP calls for IP network 120, therefore providing by-directional encapsulation 6:35-50);

Said relay control unit includes a telephone administration server (system management server 216 on Fig. 2 and 8:15-27), a telephone number server (call manager server 218 comprising a customer data base with telephone numbers 10:54-67), a pilot telephone server (time of the day server 212 providing universal coordinated time for local time stamping 8:4-14), and a table administration server (DNS server 214, assigning IP addresses to activated devices, inherently creating tables to correlate devices with their IP addresses 7:25-60); and

Among IP packets entered from a media router a telephone call control packet is transferred to the relay control unit (IP packets from IP network 120 entering administration center 155 as shown on Fig. 1 and 5:47-53) and a voice IP packet is branched to a voice IP communication line (voice IP packets are directed to a line connecting central router 210 with IP network 120 as shown on Fig. 2).

Kung does not teach gateway as two separate devices: network node and relay control unit.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to separate gateway of Kung into two separate devices as network node and relay control unit to improve the system maintainability by segregating two different functions of the gateway as encapsulation and management into network node and relay control unit.

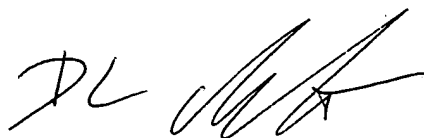
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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dmitry Levitan whose telephone number is (571) 272-3093. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 to 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hassan Kizou can be reached on (571) 272-3088. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DL' followed by a stylized name.

Dmitry Levitan
Patent Examiner.

10/14/05